



May 2, 2023

Representative Jay Xiong
MN House of Representatives
557 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Representative Xiong:

As you know, Hired is a multi-service workforce development nonprofit and our work centers on one thing: helping people prepare for and secure good jobs. We define a good job as one with family sustaining wages, benefits, job advancement potential and the opportunity to build a career and build wealth.

And, we're about jobs and a whole lot more, providing stabilizing support services so people can focus on training and getting that good job; access to technology, housing assistance, food support, transportation...all are critical **all** are critical while helping families prepare for a stable job and a hopeful future. For Hired, it really is about jobs and a whole lot more.

Hired's bill that you heard is all about helping Hired expand career pathway programs! As you know, **these short-term job trainings that help people skill up and connect to family sustaining wage jobs are about access for people and stability for families.** And the majority of people we serve in our career pathway programs are people of color...Hired is helping to close the persistent employment disparity gaps in the State.

Thank you for hearing our story, for hearing Jennifer's success story of stability and advancement after graduating from Hired's career pathway programs. AND, thank you, **thank you for including Hired's bill in the omnibus bill!** This direct appropriation will support Hired to offer more trainings and prepare more workers for employment in high-growth sectors.

Together, we can do great things!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Julie Brekke', is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Julie Brekke
Executive Director

Empowered people & families. A prepared workforce. An inclusive economy.

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